



City of Monroe, Washington  
Parks & Recreation Department

August, 2019

## MISSION

**Protect and enhance the natural beauty of Monroe through the development of a vibrant system of parks, open space and trails. Provide citizens of all ages positive recreational opportunities in clean, safe and accessible recreation facilities. Enhance health, quality living and the natural environment for future generations.**

## Department Update

### **Lewis Street Park Play Area Ribbon Cutting**

A ribbon cutting ceremony for the new play equipment at Lewis Street Park was held **Thursday July 11th, 2019**. The new play equipment includes features that encourage multi-generational play, are ADA inclusive and intentionally break down physical and social barriers to play. Advanced climbing challenges and motion activities appeal to older children who seek a more adventurous play experience. Another unique feature includes a MusicBall, which will be the first of its kind in the Northwest. It is an inclusive, human-powered sensory-play. Rubberized surfacing is also part of the playground design.



*New Play Equipment for Lewis Street Park!*

### **East County Parks & Recreation District Bond Measure**

On June 11, 2019 at its regular meeting, the East County Parks and Recreation District (ECPRD) passed Proposition No. 1 by a resolution of its board. The District is a local junior taxing district of Snohomish County separate from the City of Monroe and Snohomish County. The District was formed in 1970 and is managed by a five member board of commissioners elected by residents within the District. The District's offices are located at 333 South Lewis Street in Monroe. District boundaries are roughly the same as those of the Monroe School District, which includes the communities of Monroe, Maltby, and Echo Lake. Typically, park districts fit a niche between City and County park

systems, helping to expand opportunities available to the public. On July 23, 2019 Monroe City Council approved a resolution expressing support for East County Park and Recreation District's, Proposition No. 1.

The District is requesting a bond measure to purchase, rehabilitate, and/or enhance the following projects within its boundaries:

- Maltby Park improvements, including (1) converting the fields to all weather, lighted, synthetic turf, and multi-purpose fields and (2) upgrades to walking paths;
- Lake Tye athletic field renovations, including converting the fields to all weather, lighted, synthetic turf, and multi-purpose fields within the City of Monroe;
- Neighborhood playground equipment upgrade and replacement for: Cedar Grove, Currie View, Hillcrest, Stanton Meadows, Wales Street, Rainier View, Blueberry and Park Meadows within the City of Monroe;
- Park acquisition and development of a North Hill area park within the City of Monroe;
- Development and extension of trails from the existing southerly segment to the Chain Lake shared non-motorized path within the City of Monroe; and
- Evergreen State Fairgrounds improvements, including frontage improvements, perimeter trail, spray pad, and construction of a community center.

The District's Proposition One will be presented to voters for consideration during the November 5, 2019 general election. This proposition is requesting approval to levy property taxes sufficient to pay the yearly debt service associated with a general obligation bond in an amount not to exceed \$26,500,000 over a twenty one year period.

Detailed information about ECPRD's Bond and Levy can be found here.

<https://www.monroewa.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=3086>

Informational brochures are available are also available to be picked-up at Monroe City Hall, 806 West Main Street, Monroe, WA.



**ECPRD bond measure**

## **Operations**

Parks and Recreation Department team members have been busy this summer with daily recreation use of our parks facilities and athletic fields, as well as scheduled maintenance, cleaning and repair work on facilities, equipment and landscaped areas. Daily athletic field preps and covered shelter use, as well as large special events are keeping our staff busy.

### New art sculpture commissioned for the Downtown

The Monroe City Council has commissioned a new art sculpture to be created and placed within our historic downtown. The sculpture is a collaboration from 2 regional artists; Milo White and Jay Bowen. Jay has family ties to Monroe and is very familiar with town and its history. The piece is titled '**Guardian of the Mountain Pass**' and is designed to reflect Monroe's beautiful mountains, rivers and forests. The curved shape reflects that of a native mountain goat horn, the mountain ridges will mirror our own specific perspective view of the surrounding Cascade Range and all the materials for the sculpture will be locally sourced. The sculpture is currently being fabricated and will be installed on the South West corner of Main and Lewis Street by the end of the year. Once built, the piece will be roughly 12 feet tall, perched on top of a concrete plinth base.



*'Guardian of the Mountain Pass'*

2019  
**MOVIES**  
UNDER THE  
**MOON**

**FREE OUTDOOR MOVIES!**  
Fridays in August  
Showtime: Dusk  
Pre-show activities  
and music at 8pm  
Lake Tye Park,  
Monroe

August 2 Incredibles 2  
August 9 Ralph Breaks the Internet  
August 16 Mary Poppins Returns  
August 23 Black Panther

Consistent quality  
for parties

Logos: The Y, Monroe Public Schools, MCB, REPUBLIC, Monroe Public Schools Generation



### **Monroe Park Board**

This month, the Monroe Park Board will be reviewing the 6-year Parks Capital Improvement Projects list, ECPRD's bond measure and will conduct a field tour of Lewis Street Park.

### **City awarded \$20,000 Forterra grant for interpretive signage along the Skykomish River**

The City applied for and has been notified that it will receive grant funding for interpretive and wayfinding signage to initiate implementation of the [Skykomish-Snohomish Rivers Recreation Concept Plan](#) . The City of Monroe is a valued coalition member, actively participating in and developing the Plan, Wayfinding and Regulatory signage, and Access Point Development for the Concept Plan. This project is needed to promote the Concept Plan's goals to promote river stewardship, safety and sustainable recreation.

The Project will provide information regarding best practices for accessing and recreating within a wild, salmon-bearing river; safe personal use; and rules regarding boater's responsibilities at Lewis Street Park and the Department of Fish & Wildlife's boat launch facility. The project supports the Concept Plan's 'Early Action Priorities' by providing educational materials on river etiquette, regulatory and safety information, ecological stewardship, and the 'Leave no Trace' ethic. As a means to promote river access by diverse populations, the Project will provide information in multiple, gender-neutral languages. The grant project is expected to be completed by spring, 2020.

This project is vitally important to promote river safety, resources stewardship, and supports inclusion of diverse communities. Please visit [Skykomish Snohomish Rivers Recreation Coalition](#) to learn more about future implementation steps.



**View of Skykomish River from Lewis Street Park**

### **WWA National Championships to be held at Lake Tye Park**

The [The World Wake Association](#)'s National Championships returned to Lake Tye Park July 24-29. This NBC Sports televised event presented by Rockstar Energy drew large crowds to Lake Tye, which offers a unique vantage of watching the event from multiple places around the lake. Congratulations to all of the new 2019 WWA National Champions!



**WWA National Champions**

Please visit [www.choosemonroe.com](http://www.choosemonroe.com), pick up a copy of the latest issue of Choose Monroe magazine and Parks & Recreation Events & Programs Brochure for more community event happenings this month and throughout the year!



**Join us for the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new exercise stations at Skykomish River Park!**

We extend our deepest thanks and appreciation for a grant award from the Snohomish County Council through their Small Capital Projects Partnership Grant program to purchase and install outdoor exercise equipment in Skykomish River Park in Monroe.

The Monroe Boys & Girls Club, as part of the Healthy Lifestyles initiative at the club, partnered with the City of Monroe to install 8 basic trailside exercise stations along the walking trail at Skykomish River Park. The selected exercise stations include a starting/stretching post, a pull-up/chin-up bar, parallel bars with a balance disc, a triceps station, step station, sit-up station, push-up station, agility and jump-n-touch station.

These new exercise stations will provide fun and exercise for users with varying abilities, improving the health and well-being of our community in Monroe.

### City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections

Last year, a weekly maintenance monitoring emphasis by park staff was initiated on unmarked trails at Al Borlin and Sky River Parks to identify and resolve, in cooperation with our Police Department, any unlawful encampments that may occur in City parks.

The following is a summary of data for the past month:

**Locations: Al Borlin Park; Sky River Park**

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
7/9	7	6	2 camps found at Sky River Park. Police contacted
7/17	6	8	
7/24	6.5	3	4 camps found: 1 at Sky River Park, 3 at Al Borlin Park. Police contacted.
7/30	8	29	Majority of garbage/debris found at al Borlin Park.
Avg.	6.9	11.5	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2017- 2019

**Volunteer Opportunities** Join the City of Monroe team by volunteering your talent and time to support City programs, projects and events. Volunteering is an opportunity to learn about Monroe's diverse community, understand how local government works and connect with other community members. The City offers on-going and one-time event volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in volunteering, or seeking additional information, please contact Pamela Baker at (360) 863-4524.

Visit the City website [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov) for information on upcoming programs and events.